

Amendments to the claims

- 1. (Original)** An agent for improving a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor.
- 2. (Original)** The agent according to claim 1, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in learning function.
- 3. (Original)** The agent according to claim 1, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in memory function.
- 4. (Original)** The agent according to claim 1, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.
- 5. (Original)** An agent for inhibiting vascular hyperpermeability, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor.
- 6. (Original)** The agent according to claim 5, wherein the vascular hyperpermeability is cerebrovascular hyperpermeability.
- 7. (Original)** A composition for improving a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor and a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.
- 8. (Original)** The composition according to claim 7, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in learning function.
- 9. (Original)** The composition according to claim 7, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in memory function.
- 10. (Original)** The composition according to claim 7, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.

11. (Original) A composition for inhibiting vascular hyperpermeability, comprising a hepatocyte growth factor and a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

12. (Original) The composition according to claim 11, wherein the vascular hyperpermeability is cerebrovascular hyperpermeability.

13. (Original) A method of improving a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction, which comprises administering a hepatocyte growth factor to a mammal.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in learning function.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in memory function.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.

17. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting vascular hyperpermeability, which comprises administering an effective amount of a hepatocyte growth factor to a mammal.

18. (Currently amended) ~~The A method of inhibiting cerebrovascular hyperpermeability according to claim 17, wherein the vascular hyperpermeability is cerebrovascular hyperpermeability which comprises administering an effective amount of a hepatocyte growth factor to a mammal.~~

19. (Previously presented) A method for producing a pharmaceutical preparation for inhibiting a mental disorder due to cerebral dysfunction, which comprises mixing a hepatocyte growth factor with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in learning function.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the mental disorder is a decline in memory function.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the mental disorder is dementia.

23. (Previously presented) A method for producing a pharmaceutical preparation for inhibiting vascular hyperpermeability, which comprises mixing a hepatocyte growth factor with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the vascular hyperpermeability is cerebrovascular hyperpermeability.

25. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein a decline in learning function is improved.

26. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein a decline in memory function is improved.

27. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein dementia is improved.